

**UNAPPROVED DRAFT**

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY  
MINUTES OF REGULATORY/LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, September 14, 2006**

**The Hotel Roanoke  
Roanoke, Virginia**

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- CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.
- PRESIDING:** Edward P. Snyder, D.D.S., Chair
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jacqueline G. Pace, R.D.H.  
James D. Watkins, D.D.S.
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Paul N. Zimmet, D.D.S.  
Jeffrey Levin, D.D.S.  
Darryl J. Pirok, D.D.S.  
Meera A. Gokli, D.D.S.
- STAFF PRESENT:** Sandra Reen, Executive Director  
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst
- COUNSEL PRESENT:** Howard Casway, Senior Assistant Attorney General
- QUORUM:** All three members were present.
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** **Marty Robinson, R.D.H.** spoke on behalf of the Virginia Dental Hygienists' Association in support of having the Board adopt regulations for the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide analgesia consistent with the recommendations of the VDA/VDHA/VDAA Task Force recommendations as submitted by the president of VDHA, Ms. Bertlam. She summarized the recommendations as a minimum of 18 hours of training with practical components. She advised that this training could be incorporated in the curriculum of dental hygiene training programs at the community colleges.
- Robert Keller, D.D.S.** asked that the Board reconsider having a blanket requirement for CPR courses. He indicated people with handicaps are unable to complete the practical component of the course so the requirement is a barrier for the handicapped.
- Martha Clements, M.Ed. and Ron Hunt, D.D.S.** distributed and discussed 3 handouts on the course requirements that the VCU School of Dentistry recommends for training dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia and nitrous oxide analgesia. They encouraged the Board to set requirements for continuing education of 8 hours of training to administer only nitrous oxide

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and for 36 hours to administer both local anesthesia and nitrous oxide.

In response to questions, Ms. Clements advised that the cost per day of the training would typically \$300 to \$350 and Dr. Hunt advised that dentists should be involved in the training and that there proposal is for this training to follow graduation from a dental hygiene program. He indicated that in addition the training could be incorporated in the School's dental hygiene program and an appropriate certificate awarded.

**Marty Robinson, R.D.H.** asked to speak again as an educator. She expressed support for the School's proposal for continuing education courses and advised that the community college programs were not offering continuing education.

**MINUTES:**

Dr. Snyder asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes. On a properly seconded motion by Dr. Watkins, the minutes of the meeting held on December 7, 2005 were approved with an amendment on the first page to add in the first sentence of the section on Mr. Whitehead's comments the phrase "local anesthesia and nitrous oxide" following the word "administer".

**PROPOSED  
REGULATIONS FOR A  
DENTAL HYGIENIST  
TO ADMINISTER  
LOCAL ANESTHESIA  
AND NITROUS OXIDE:**

Ms. Yeatts reviewed the steps to be taken to complete the regulations and indicated that final regulations could be in place in the Fall of 2007.

Ms. Reen noted that there was public comment on the NOIRA in the mailed agenda package and in the hand-outs.

Ms. Yeatts advised that staff would develop proposed regulations for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting and requested guidance on what the Committee wanted included on the subjects of minimum education and training, safety and posting, qualifications of trainers, training in other states and continuing education.

A motion by Dr. Watkins was adopted to have two levels of training, one level for the administration of only nitrous oxide analgesia and second level for the administration of local

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anesthesia and nitrous oxide analgesia.

The possible array of providers was discussed and then a motion by Dr. Watkins to require that the education and training be completed in a CODA accredited program was adopted.

After discussing the written and oral comments and the diversity of requirements adopted in other states, the committee adopted a motion by Dr. Watkins that the requirements recommended by the VCU School of Dentistry be used to develop the regulations on course content.

Questions arose about who could teach the training. Ms. Yeatts was advised that the regulations should allow the didactic portions to be taught by either a licensed dental hygienist or dentist on the faculty of the program and only allow a licensed dentist to teach the clinical components.

The Committee decided not to include a requirement for continuing education post completion of the training to administer.

Following discussion of the minimum passing score typically used by the community colleges and by the School, a motion by Dr. Watkins to set the minimum passing score at 75% was adopted.

Ms. Yeatts asked if the dental hygienist should have to post a certificate. A motion by Dr. Watkins to require that a certificate of showing completion of the training be posted was adopted.

Ms. Yeatts then requested guidance on the provisions for dental hygienists who have completed training in other states. She was advised that:

- (a) applicants who have certificates from other states and have practiced at least 24 of the previous 48 months with the certificate in effect may administer by posting the certificate from the other state; or
- (b) applicants who have not practiced for 24 of the previous 48 months but who have training equal to or greater than Virginia's requirements may administer by posting the certificate from the other state; or

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(c) applicants whose training was less than that required by Virginia will be required to complete the Virginia program requirements.

Dr. Snyder asked if there were other areas to be addressed and Ms. Yeatts advised not at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With all business concluded, the Committee adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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Edward P. Snyder, D.D.S., Chair

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Sandra K. Reen, Executive Director

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Date

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Date